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## BOOK REVIEWS.

**INDEX ANALYSIS OF THE FEDERAL STATUTES.** By George Winfield Scott and Middleton G. Beaman. Vol. I. (1873-1907). Washington: Government Printing Office. 1908. pp. v, 1373. 8vo. (\$2.50.)

Here is an index made with such care and intelligence that the authors are entitled to unusually hearty thanks.

The chief purpose of this volume is to furnish a key to the general and permanent law—whether now in force or not—found in the United States Revised Statutes of 1873 and in the subsequent volumes of the Statutes at Large, closing with volume 34.

As much law of a general and permanent nature is concealed in enactments apparently personal, local, or temporary, the task of the authors has been even more difficult than would be expected from the mere statement that the statutes examined cover 40,000 pages; and consequently unusual care has been taken, the work of previous compilers being discarded and the statutes being examined anew by several investigators working independently and eventually checking one another's results.

The alphabetical classification follows a plan which includes numerous headings, sub-headings, and cross references. The excellence of the arrangement can be seen by looking at almost any heading, *e. g.*, Eminent Domain, Interstate Commerce, Labor. The reader's convenience is consulted further by inserting in more than twenty places two pages entitled "How to use the index"; and his confidence in the volume is, to say the least, not diminished by printing on each leaf the request "Please report to the authors any error or omission discovered."

The index does not ignore the unofficial names by which statutes are popularly designated. In the proper alphabetical place one finds, for example, the Commodity Clause of the Railroad Rate Act, the Elkins Act (Interstate Commerce), the Platt Amendment (Cuba), and the Sherman Act (Trusts). At the end of the volume is a special index of the popular names of statutes from 1789 to the present time. This is a feature of interest both to the lawyer and to the student of history, as is shown by finding here such famous titles as Alien Enemies Act, Civil Rights Acts, Emancipation Proclamation, Embargo Acts, Fugitive Slave Law, Legal Tender Acts, Morrill Act, Sedition Act, Tenure of Office Act, Union Pacific Railroad Charter, and Wilmot Proviso—each being followed, of course, with the reference to the Statutes at Large.

From the point of view of the authors, probably the most important feature of this volume is its relation to a general scheme intended to aid Congressmen and others to frame prospective statutes with full knowledge of previous enactments. Other volumes may be expected to deal with statutes prior to the Revised Statutes of 1873, local laws, treaties, and other matter. Perhaps—for such is the dream of the authors—there may even arise eventually a group of official draftsmen—experts in framing and phrasing statutes. Meanwhile there is no question that the present conscientious volume is to be of great assistance to legislators, lawyers, and historians.

**CASES ON THE LAW OF PARTNERSHIP.** Selected by Eugene Allen Gilmore. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 1908. pp. xvi, 638. 8vo.

A case book must be judged by different standards from a text book. In a text book the important thing is what the author says. In a case book the worth of the work depends primarily on what the author has selected. Such a book cannot be fairly criticized in respect of substance without careful analysis of the material from which it is drawn—a task impossible to the reviewer. In